

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

Listing of Claims:

Claims 1-10, 13, 15, 17, 26-32, and 34-35 (cancelled without prejudice to prosecution in a future application).

11. (currently amended) A method for treating myocardial pathology, comprising ~~noninvasive administration of~~ administering a therapeutically effective amount of a nucleic acid molecule encoding HGF ~~into the~~ directly to a part of an affected cardiac muscle of a mammal using echocardiographic guidance without thoracotomy.

12. (previously amended) The method of claim 11, wherein the nucleic acid molecule comprises a Sendai virus (HVJ)-liposome.

14. (currently amended) ~~The~~ A method of claim 11 for treating myocardial pathology, comprising administering a therapeutically effective amount of a nucleic acid molecule encoding HGF directly into the cardiac muscle of a mammal, wherein the nucleic acid molecule is administered once a week for 8 weeks.

16. (currently amended) A method for treating a cardiac muscle disorder, comprising ~~noninvasive administration of~~ administering a nucleic acid molecule encoding a polypeptide effective for the treatment of a ~~the~~ disorder into ~~an~~ the affected part cardiac muscle of a tissue using ~~echocardiography~~ echocardiographic guidance without thoracotomy.

18. (previously amended) The method of claim 16, wherein the nucleic acid molecule encodes HGF.

33. (currently amended) ~~The~~ A method of claim 11 for treating myocardial pathology, comprising administering a therapeutically effective amount of a nucleic acid molecule encoding HGF directly into a cardiac muscle of a mammal, wherein ~~the non-invasive~~ administration comprises administering the nucleic acid molecule under echocardiographic guidance without thoracotomy through a catheter.

36. (new) A method for treating a disorder, comprising administering a nucleic acid molecule encoding HGF effective for the treatment of a disorder directly into an affected part of a tissue using echocardiography.

37. (new) The method of claim 11, wherein the method comprises administering the molecule encoding HGF using echocardiographic guidance without an incision.